

# Shevardnadze Sees Summit Hope, Plays Down Expulsions, Daniloff

*But Gorbachev  
Calls Reporter 'Spy'*

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Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, arriving here yesterday for two days of meetings with Secretary of State George P. Shultz, said the Soviet Union was ready for a summit that he said was already "arranged, settled 50 percent."

The Soviet minister, looking cheerful and relaxed, played down both the U.S. decision to expel 25 members of the Soviet mission to the United Nations and the case of the detained American reporter Nicholas Daniloff in remarks to reporters.

He said the expulsions were "illegal" and a "bad" decision by the Reagan administration, but gave no indication that Moscow was about to take any retaliatory action. Shevardnadze expressed willingness to discuss the Daniloff case, which Shultz has said will be at the top of his agenda today, saying "it can be resolved."

But Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, in his first public remarks on the Nicholas Daniloff case, charged yesterday that the U.S. News & World Report correspondent was a "spy who was caught in the act" and that his crime was "no-run-of-the-mill business." Gorbachev accused unnamed circles in the United States of wanting to use "this espionage case to again spoil Soviet-American relations . . . ." [Details on Page A21.]

Gorbachev's description of Daniloff as a spy echoed President Reagan's earlier description of Gennadi Zakharov, a Soviet U.N. employee whose arrest on espionage charges Aug. 23 apparently provoked Daniloff's arrest in Moscow seven days later. The Soviets have repeatedly demanded that the two cases be treated identically, but the United

States has insisted that they are not comparable. Yesterday, Reagan repeated that Daniloff was "no spy."

Shevardnadze, on his arrival at Andrews Air Force Base yesterday, said the Soviet Union had strong

doubts whether the Reagan administration was still interested in holding a summit, a sentiment also expressed by Gorbachev.

In a prepared arrival statement, Shevardnadze said he had come to Washington to determine the extent of the Reagan administration's willingness to pursue "the line" that had emerged from the Geneva summit between Reagan and Gorbachev last November and to resolve Soviet doubts as to whether Washington was still committed to "the spirit of Geneva."

"The state of the Soviet-U.S. relationship is now such that a lack of forward movement and particularly retrogression in that relationship could for many years to come leave our two countries in positions of confrontation and dangerous contention," Shevardnadze said.

"Everything will depend on the U.S. administration," he told reporters.

Shevardnadze referred in his statement to meetings he would be having in Washington with Shultz and Reagan. However, U.S. officials said a decision on whether the president would see him had not yet been made.

The foreign minister indicated that he would raise the 25 expulsions when he meets with Shultz. After calling them "illegal" and a "bad" decision in remarks to reporters at Andrews Air Force Base, he added: "I could, of course, use a stronger expression, too, but that may be after the meeting."

Regarding Daniloff, Shevardnadze said "such incidents have happened before and may happen in the future in relations between states. This is undesirable, but unfortunately it does happen. On such occasions, it is important that political leaders . . . act wisely and with foresight that they do not impede normal relations between nations, between states."

A senior administration official said yesterday that Shultz would raise the Daniloff case with Shevardnadze at the start of their first meeting at 9 a.m. today. She said Shultz would make clear that the Soviets had to find a way to release Daniloff, but would also review "the entirety" of outstanding issues in the U.S.-Soviet relationship, including arms control, human rights, regional matters and bilateral issues.

The main objective of the meeting was to determine where "some momentum" could be generated in preparation for a summit, which the official said the administration still "assumed" would be held this year as Reagan and Gorbachev had agreed at their first summit.

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But the official said the administration did not expect Shultz and Shevardnadze to announce a date for the summit at the end of their two-day meeting Saturday.

At a news conference in New York yesterday, Soviet U.N. Ambassador Alexander Belonogov charged that the U.S. decision to expel the 25 Soviets was a "blatantly provocative act" aimed at thwarting a summit meeting between Reagan and Gorbachev.

In Moscow, a spokesman for the Soviet Foreign Ministry hinted that the Soviet Union might take retaliatory steps, Celestine Bohlen of The Washington Post Foreign Service reported. "The American side is making a mistake to think this provocative step will have no consequences," spokesman Boris Pyadyshev said, without being specific.

Belonogov said the size of the Soviet mission was already "well below" the figure of 218 that the administration set last March for the Soviets to reach by Oct. 1. Belonogov said the mission now has 205 people and charged that Vernon A. Walters, U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, was aware of that fact when he gave him the expulsion order Wednesday.

Soviet criticism of the expulsion order won some support yesterday from U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, who issued a statement calling the U.S. action "incompatible" with the 1947 headquarters agreement between the United States, as host government, and the United Nations.

The statement said the United States was seeking a "collective expulsion" to enforce its decision to reduce the size of the Soviet mission but that the U.S. right to expel U.N.-accredited diplomats applied only to specific individuals engaged in specific acts of misconduct.

The names of those being expelled have not been released, but an administration official said all 25 were known or suspected KGB agents.

State Department spokesman Bernard Kalb reiterated yesterday that the decision to order the expulsions was dictated by the Soviet refusal to cooperate with U.S. authorities by providing information about which members were going home. Kalb said that the number of Soviets in the mission was "over 218."

He refused to answer questions about whether the department knew exactly how many Soviet mission members were in New York. On Tuesday, an official at the U.S. mission in New York said the Soviets then had precisely 212 personnel present in their U.N. mission, with valid visas for 17 others.

Belonogov, noting that the 25 persons on the list of expellees included both diplomats and technical staff, said the Soviet mission had no obligation to report changes in mission personnel directly to the U.S. government because "the missions of the U.N. member states are not in New York as guests of the U.S. government."

He said the Soviet Union reported personnel changes to the U.N. protocol office, which advises the U.S. mission, he said. Thus, the United States knew that the Soviet mission was below 218 persons, he said.